

## BOLLINGER BABY CASE AGITATION MAY CARRY BIRTH CONTROL FIGHT TO CONGRESS

New York, Nov. 29.—Dr. Frederick H. Robinson, famous editor of the Medical Review of Reviews and leader of the fight for birth control in the United States, announced today that as a result of the greatly discussed death of the little Bollinger baby in the German American hospital in Chicago a national battle to secure the repeal of laws preventing birth control in America is to be started the minute congress convenes in Washington, Dec. 6.

Dr. Robinson announced that a band of reformers has already been selected to assail the legislators when they assemble in the capitol.

"Three years ago," said Robinson today, "we were treated like criminals when we attempted to get the matter before congress. But the wide discussion of the Bollinger case has made it impossible for the lawmakers to ignore the subject any longer.

"The Bollinger case has no direct bearing on birth control, for the mother already had had two healthy children. But the publicity which the case has received has at last swept away these barriers of silence which hitherto have kept the subject of childbirth from consideration by our great American public.

"The federal law now provides a penalty of five years in prison and a fine of \$5,000 for any physician who advises a patient how to avoid childbirth. We have been urging the repeal of this law, but without any success.

"But now the outlook is very bright indeed. Reputable physicians have exonerated Dr. Haiselden of all blame for the death of the unfortunate Bollinger child and the members of congress in view of this fact will be sure to give us a hearing.

"There is no single measure that would so positively, so immediately contribute toward the happiness and the progress of the human race as

teaching the people the proper means of birth control. I have been drawn into this propaganda by my observations as a physician of the terrible suffering and misery resulting from too many children, which I have witnessed among my friends and acquaintances, and, in the early years of my practice, among my patients. There is not a physician who has not had many cases in his practice of families which started life well but which became quickly demoralized financially and physically by children coming in too rapid succession.

"While the first child and perhaps the second are received with genuine joy, the third and fourth are met with indifference. The succeeding ones are considered catastrophes.

"More than one physician has told me that fathers have endeavored to prevent them from using artificial respiration on a stillborn baby, remarking that the child was not worth bothering about.

"In my opinion a working man should not have more than two children under present conditions. Every child after the second, and particularly after the third, is individually and racially a calamity. Besides destroying the health of the mother, too many children among wage earners simply glut the market with wage slaves.

"One of the most beneficial effects of the repeal of the laws preventing the giving of information on birth control would be the diminution of the terrible crime of abortion. The present vicious laws are responsible for thousands of abortions among unmarried women and tens of thousands among married women in this country.

"The law places family limitation and abortion on precisely the same plane; yet one is the terrible consequence of the lack of legitimate information about the other.